received, it will be decided on merits and as per the rules in force at that time.

Bifurcation of Palghat Railway Division

1033. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Reforms Committee had recommended to bifurcate the over-congested Palghat Railway Divsion, as far back as in 1985;

(b) whether it is a fact that this bifurcation would result in formation of the Salem Railway Division;

(c) whether it is a fact that the then Railway Minister had announced sanction for the Salem Railway Division on 13th March, 1999 in Parliament; and

(d) if so, when the Salem Railway Division would be formed and when the action would be initiated in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Encroachment of Railway Land

1034. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated railway land under illegal occupation encroachment in the country as per latest survey conducted by the Ministry;

(b) the steps taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's